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argon atmosphere to 100 ml of xylene. The resulting was stirred at reflux temperature for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature the silica gel was filtered (all operations under argon). Then the silica gel was suspended in 100 ml of dichloromethane and to the stirred mixture 30 ml of 4 N sodium hydroxide aqueous solution were added. This mixture was stirred over a period of 1 h at room temperature. Then the silica gel was filtered again and washed with each 100 ml of dichloromethane/methanol (1:1), toluene, iso-propanol and finally with dichloromethane. The modified silica gel was dried under a high vacuum at 40°C. yield 29.7 g.

analysis: P-content: 0.32% corresponding to 0.051 mmol diphosphine/g silica gel.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the heading at page 31, line 1, with --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:--

Please cancel Claims 1-7 and add Claims 8-15.

A4
--8. A process for the preparation of non-chiral or optically active alcohols comprising reacting a carbonyl compound with hydrogen in the presence of a catalyst, a base, and optionally a diamine, wherein the catalyst is a Ru(II) complex containing a support-bonded bisphosphine ligand and a diamine ligand.

9. A process according to Claim 8 wherein the catalyst is formed in situ from a support-bonded catalyst precursor and a diamine.

10. A process according to Claim 8 wherein the catalyst contains a chirally uniform, support-bonded bisphosphine ligand and a chirally uniform diamine ligand.

11. A process according to Claim 10 wherein the bisphosphine ligand is an atropisomeric bisphosphine ligand.

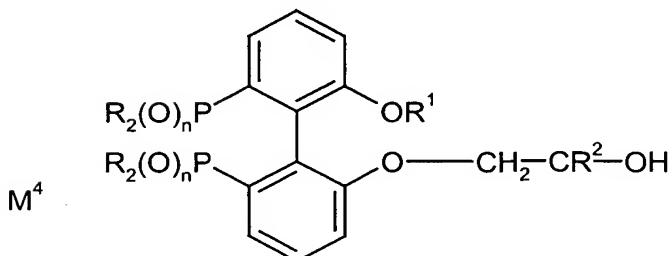
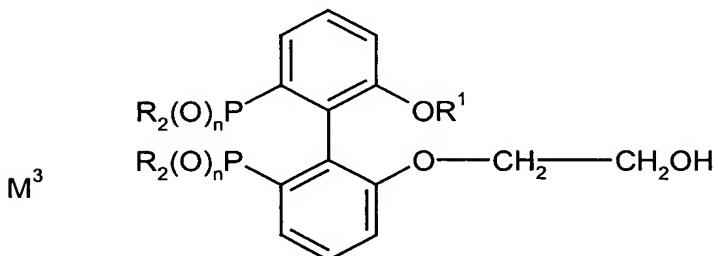
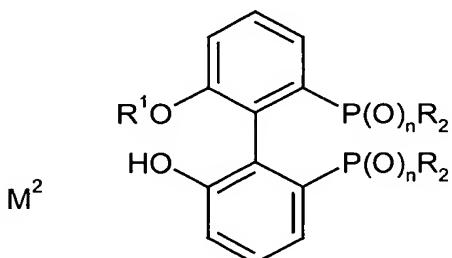
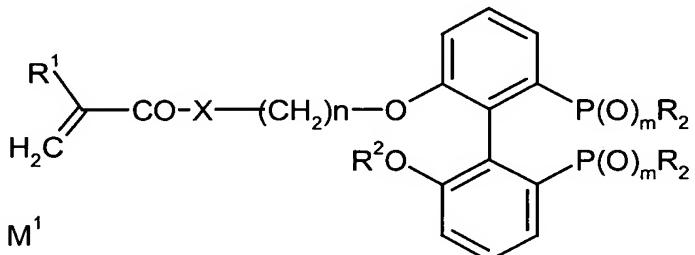
12. A process according to Claim 8 wherein the bisphosphine ligand is bonded to the support by linking functional groups of the bisphosphine ligand with reactive groups on the support or on a spacer attached to the support.

13. A Ru(II) complex catalyst containing a support-bonded bisphosphine ligand and a diamine ligand.

A4
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14. A Ru(II) complex catalyst obtained by linking an inorganic support containing SH groups with a bisphosphine or derivative thereof capable of polymerization.

15. A compound of the formula M^1 , M^2 , M^3 , M^4 , M^5 , M^6 , M^7 , M^8 , M^9 , $M^{9'}$, M^{10} , or $M^{10'}$



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